

Friday 13th September

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! This letter is to keep you informed about some of the work children will be doing in Year 1 and to give you a snapshot of our busy Autumn term!

### Creative Curriculum

Our topic work this term is all about school days, past and present. A big focus of this topic will be how Clifford Bridge Academy has changed over time. As part of the introduction to the theme we will be inviting some past pupils to share their memories with us. If you are a past pupil or have any links with the school from the past, please let us know. As Historians, children will be able to compare past and present schools and identify similarities and differences. We have also planned an exciting visit to St. John's Museum, where we will study Victorian Schools and the children will have the opportunity to experience life as a Victorian child. Following this, we will be comparing and contrasting a Victorian school with the children's own school experiences. As Artists, children will be painting self-portraits and looking at the work of L. S. Lowry and replicating art work using his styles of drawing and painting. In Geography lessons, we will look at the locality of Clifford Bridge and the surrounding area. As Musicians, the children will explore how music can change a person's mood. They will also consider how to use music as a stimulus for Art and Creative Writing.



### English

English work this term focuses on

- Classic Tales - focusing on Dogger by Shirley Hughes
- Well-loved Books - focusing on The Three Billy Goats Gruff
- Information Texts - writing information about schools
- Poetry - creating a class book of favourite playground and nursery rhymes and Zim Zam Zoom



Within this written work the focus will be on the correct formation and orientation of all letters of the alphabet, accurate use of capital letters and full stops, awareness of tense and the inclusion of the language of time (first, then etc.) We shall continue to encourage the children's enthusiasm and independence when writing. They will be learning to spell words with common spelling patterns and irregular High Frequency words.

## Mathematics

This year, children will be taught using the scheme 'Maths No Problem.' Based on extensive research into the Singapore style of Maths teaching, 'Maths No Problem' incorporates the use of practical resources, problem solving and group work in a fun and engaging way. Mathematics work this term will be covering; counting up to 100 and beyond; number bonds to ten and twenty; different methods for addition and subtraction and position and direction.



We will also be solving problems and puzzles involving understanding of numbers and operations and explaining their methods and justifying decisions. Mental Maths will focus on **instant recall** of taught facts, such as number bonds to 10.

## Science

This term we will be covering two units in Science. In 'Our Changing World', we will identify and name a variety of common plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. We will observe the changes across the four seasons, with a focus on the weather. In our 'Using Our Senses' unit, we will identify the senses and say which part of the body is associated with that sense. We will then explore how our senses help us to find out about the world around us.

## Religious Education - RE



This term the children will learn about:

### The Creation Story

In this unit children will listen to the Christian Creation story and explore how this influences how Christians behave towards nature and the environment.

### The Christmas Story

In this unit, children will reflect on the Christmas story and decide what gifts would be meaningful for Jesus.

## Physical Education - PE

In PE, children will take part in Gymnastics lessons. They will identify and use different actions and shapes then begin to link these moves together to create a sequence. The children are also lucky to have Coventry Sky Blues leading our outdoor P.E. sessions. These sessions will focus on team building and developing children's ball skills through different games.



To support this vital area of the curriculum please can you remind your children to bring the correct changes of clothes to school. We ask for an indoor and an outdoor PE kit in a named PE bag, on a Monday and Tuesday. These P.E. kits can stay in school and be taken home half-termly.

## Personal, Social and Health Education - PSHE

### Being me in my world



Children will think about what it means to be part of the school and how they belong to the class. They will consider how to create a safe classroom environment and recognise how it feels to be proud when they achieve something.

### Homework

A compulsory POWER Project will be given out every term. The POWER Project will include open-ended activities for children to select the activities they would enjoy completing which are related to our theme.



Your child will also bring home a reading book and words to learn. These should be brought to school every day. Please try to listen to your child read as often as possible - at least **three times** a week and record this in their reading diary.

Later in the year, your child may begin to bring home spellings to learn. More details will follow, when appropriate. There will also be an optional homework pack which will be sent home later in the term.

Finally, please could you make sure that your child has a water bottle for the classroom, which is separate from their lunch time drink. This should contain water and not squash. Please can we ask children to keep these out of their school bag to avoid spillages.

We look forward to creating many memorable moments with your child throughout the term.

Many thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely

Miss Jones and Miss Payne